

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 01152 091714Z

43

ACTION CU-03

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R 090721Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9704

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OEXC, BU

SUBJECT: CU/ARTS: LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

REF: STATE 131583 (NOTAL)

1. CONTARY EMBASSY'S FEARS, QUESTION OF EXTRA DAY OF PER DIEM DID NOT ARISE IN P&C OFFICER'S MEETING WITH DYULGEROV OF "SOFIACONCERT." TIME REMAINS TO SOLVE THESE "IMPORTANT, COMPLICATED BUT TECHNICAL QUESTIONS" DYULGEROV SAID. IN ANY CASE, WE APPRECIATE AGENCY'S WILLINGNESS (REFTEL, PARA 2).

2. DYULGEROV SAID "SOFIACONCERT" WILLING TO TAKE INITIATIVE ON QUESTION OF TRANSPORT OF MUSICIANS, BAGGAGE AND INSTRUMENTS AND CHARTER TWO AIRCRAFT: ILYUSHIN-18 FOR UP TO 105 PERSONS AND PERSONAL BAGGAGE AND ANTONOV CARGO PLANE FOR INSTRUMENTS. UP TO TEN "ADMINISTRATIVE" PERSONNEL CAN FLY ON ANTONOV, OR THEY COULD TAKE SCHEDULED FLIGHTS. DYULGEROV SAID HE WOULD CONTACT COUNTERPART AGENCIES TO "SOFIACONCERT" ALONG ITINERARY WITH THIS OFFER: IF ANOTHER AGENCY HAS BETTER ALTERNATIVE, "SOFIACONCERT" WILL BE HAPPY.

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PAGE 02 SOFIA 01152 091714Z

3. DYULGEROV NOTED THAT SEPARATING MUSICIANS FROM THEIR

INSTRUMENTS AND SENDING LATTER VIA TRUCK CAN CREATE PROBLEMS. HOWEVER, CENTRAL EUROPE OFTEN IS SUBJECT TO AIRPLANE-LIMITING FOG DURING WINTER MONTHS; DYULGEROV RECOMMENDED DEPARTMENT-ORCHESTRA AND IMPRESARIO-EMBASSY CONTRACTS INCLUDE POSSIBILITY OF USING FREE DAYS FOR TRAVEL, IF "FORCE MAJEURE" REQUIRES.

4. DYULGEROV ASKED MAXIMUM DIMENSIONS OF INSTRUMENT CASES, TO BE SURE THEY WILL FIT THROUGH ANTONOV CARGO DOORS.

5. DYULGEROV OUTLINED HOTEL SPACE PROBLEM ALMOST IDENTICAL TO THAT EXPRESSED IN BUDAPEST 1499, PARA 4: MAXIMUM 20 SINGLE ROOMS AVAILABLE, WITH REST OF ORCHESTRA PERSONNEL IN DOUBLES (EXCEPT FOR SUITE FOR MEHTA AND WIFE). WE ASSUME, PER STATE 128545, PARA 3B, THIS IS ACCEPTABLE.

6. NOTING EXTREMELY COMPLICATED NATURE OF TRANSPORTATION FOR ORCHESTRA PERSONNEL, PERSONAL BAGGAGE AND PROPERTIES, DYULGEROV SERIOUSLY SUGGESTED ADVANCE TEAM -- OR AT LEAST ONE MEMBER OF IT -- MAKE TWO SWINGS AROUND PROPOSED ITINERARY. HE APPEARED TO ASSUME "SOFIA CONCERT" WOULD MEET HOTEL AND PER DIEM EXPENSES. IF, IN DEPARTMENT AND ORCHESTRA'S VIEW, DOUBLE SWING IS ADVISABLE, WE ARE WILLING ASSIST WITH PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF TRAVEL.
HERZ

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